

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION  
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING**

The Inn at Irwin Gardens  
Columbus, Indiana  
September 14, 2012

Jon Ford, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Kathy Anderson, Gil Cárdenas, Karen Ellerbrook, Jon Ford, Linda Goad, Susan Hardwick, Judy Hess, Pam Hicks, Jeff Kirk, Linda Levell, Al Rent, Suzie Rentschler, Nancy Stewart, Trevor Yager

Members absent: Sherry Stark

IAC staff present: Michelle Anderson, Susan Britsch, Kristina Davis, Bobbie Garver, Dennis Hardin, Emily Hellmuth, Lewis Ricci, Rex Van Zant

Guests: Donna Catalano (Regional Arts Partners), Sandi Clark (former Commissioner), Jeff Kuehl (Indiana Coalition for the Arts), Lee Marks (former Commissioner), Ann Stack (Former Commissioner), Dick Stifel (former Commissioner)

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** IAC Commissioner Jon Ford convened the meeting at 10:10 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Consent Agenda.** IAC Commissioner Pam Hicks moved to adopt the consent agenda. IAC Commissioner Nancy Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. **Chair's Report.**

A. Mr. Ford welcomed new Commissioners Kathy Anderson from Nashville, Susan Hardwick from Newburgh, Al Rent from Muncie, Sherry Stark from Columbus and Nancy Stewart from Fort Wayne. He asked each new Commissioner to say a few words about themselves.

B. Mr. Ford reported that Senate Bill 327 from the 2012 legislative session, which was introduced to effect changes in Indiana's specialty license plate program, was later withdrawn, and certain issues regarding sales of the plates were referred to a study committee which met over the summer. IAC Executive Director Lewis Ricci does not expect that the IAC's Arts Trust license plate will be affected in any way.

C. Mr. Ford reported that the Committee on the Future and the Executive Committee both voted to recommend that IAC enter into a Client Services Contract with the State Budget Agency for FY 2013. IAC Commissioner Trevor Yager moved to approve the IAC contract with SBA. IAC Commissioner Jeff Kirk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

4. **Financials.** IAC Deputy Director Michelle Anderson presented a handout (attached) showing the IAC FY 2012 end-of-year budget. She then presented a handout (attached) showing the IAC FY 2013 budget current through July 31, 2012. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) showing requirements from the State Budget agency for preparing the FY 2014 budget. Mr. Ricci reported that he intends to submit three “change packages” to the FY 2014 budget: an additional \$500,000 to IAC for participation in the Indiana Bicentennial; an additional \$325,000 for arts in education grants; an additional \$250,000 for project grants in rural areas of the state.

5. **Advocacy Issues.** Mr. Ford explained that the Commission voted in June 2012 to eliminate two standing committees – the Cultural Trust Administrative Board and the Advocacy & Awareness Committee. Duties previously managed by the CTAB have been deferred to the Committee on the Future, which now includes former members of the CTAB as at-large or *ex-officio* members of the COF. Advocacy issues for IAC will now be channeled through the Executive Committee, but Mr. Ford and Mr. Ricci would like to establish a sub-committee or advisory board for advocacy issues, which would report to and advise the Executive Committee. Both Mr. Ford and Mr. Ricci would like for the membership of the advisory board to come from current Commissioners, former Commissioners and arts advocates. Mr. Ricci reminded the Commission that representatives from IAC have met with both major-party gubernatorial candidates, with positive results. He reported that the Committee on the Future discussed an attempt to schedule another meeting with each candidate, this time with a legislative “friend” of IAC joining the meeting. The COF felt that it would be worth the effort to try to schedule such meetings, knowing that both candidates are increasingly busy now that the election is only a few weeks away.

#### 6. **Executive Director’s Report.**

A. Mr. Ricci reported that IAC is in the process of reviewing its grant allocation plan as it involves the Regional Arts Partners; the grants to be affected would be Arts Operating Support II (AOSII), Arts Operating Support I (AOSI) and Arts Project Support (APS) grants. Funds for these grants flow from IAC through the Regional Arts Partners to organizations in the respective regions. Studies have shown that there was a lack of parity state-wide for similar-sized organizations with similar grant review scores. An ad-hoc committee consisting of current Commissioners, former Commissioners, current and former Regional Arts Partners, and IAC staff has met twice with facilitator Sara Peterson. A major part of the review is a recommendation to establish different funding ranges within each category, based on an applying organization’s operating budget, and to lower the bottom range of qualifying AOSII and AOSI grants. Mr. Ricci asked the Commission to approve the concept of establishing ranges, while giving the Executive Committee authority to approve the final recommendations of the ad-hoc committee, so that the new information can be included in the next application period. IAC Commissioner Gil Cárdenas moved to approve the concept of budget-and-score-based ranges for AOSII, AOSI and APS grants, and to empower the Executive Committee to approve the final recommendations. IAC Commissioner Karen Ellerbrook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Mr. Ricci reported on technical assistance and capacity-building workshops which IAC has hosted or are being planned. An Arts Administration workshop was held at Valparaiso University on August 10; Mr. Ricci extended thanks to Donna Catalano from South Shore Arts in Region 1 for her efforts to make the workshop a success. Mr. Ricci reported that talks are underway to establish an arts administration certification course (handout attached); the core curriculum would include fundraising, financial and organizational management, strategic planning, program evaluation, current trends in arts management, and community relevance. Possible partners in the program include the IU Center on Philanthropy, ArtsLab, the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Valparaiso University, and Ball State University. Mr. Yager recommended adding business administration to the core curriculum. Mr. Kirk recommended tooling the program to be administered on-line. Ms. Stewart expressed enthusiasm for the program.

C. IAC Community Development Manager Kristina Davis reported that IAC has received nine letters of intent to apply for Statewide Cultural District status. She reminded everyone that IAC did not accept applications in this category last year, in order to provide guidance to communities that had aspirations to become a Cultural District, but either weren't ready or had already applied and failed. The application deadline will be in October 2012, and the panel review will be in the spring of 2013.

D. Mr. Ricci introduced IAC Governor's Intern Emily Hellmuth, who spent her time with IAC this summer harvesting data from two recent surveys of arts and cultural organizations. Ms. Hellmuth presented a handout (attached) summarizing her work. Mr. Ricci praised Ms. Hellmuth for her diligent and purposeful work on behalf of IAC. IAC Community Development Manager Susan Britsch briefed the Commission on plans underway for a state-wide arts education assessment in grades K – 12. IAC is partnering with Purdue University faculty member Bob Sabol on this project.

E. Mr. Ricci introduced former Commissioner Sandra Clark from Bloomington, who is current a board member of Arts Midwest. Ms. Clark spoke briefly about her role at Arts Midwest and encouraged everyone's interest and participation. IAC Community Development Manager Bobbie Garver reported that she has just returned from attendance at the 2012 Arts Midwest Presenter and Touring Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

## **7. Committee Reports.**

A. Programs, Grants and Services Committee chair Pam Hicks presented the report (attached) from the last meeting on August 30. IAC Commissioner Judy Hess moved to uphold the findings of the Individual Artist Program grant review panel in the case of applicant Juliet Frey who did not score highly enough to be funded and submitted a letter of appeal. Mr. Yager seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ms. Davis explained the proposed changes to the Statewide Arts Service Organization (SWASO) grant program (handout attached). Mr. Cárdenas moved to approve the proposed changes. Ms. Ellerbrook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Committee on the Future chair Jeff Kirk presented the minutes from the last meeting of the COF on August 28 (attached). He explained that the COF had discussed the voting status of at-large and *ex-officio* members of the committee who had previously served on the Cultural Trust Administrative Board. The COF reached

consensus that all at-large and *ex-officio* members should be voting members of the COF. IAC Commissioner Suzie Rentschler moved that at-large and *ex-officio* members of the Committee on the Future will henceforth be voting members of the committee. IAC Commissioner Linda Levell seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Kirk presented the document (attached) which has been named the “matrix”; it will become a tool for monitoring the IAC strategic plan, with individual Commissioners assigned to different areas of oversight. Not all Commissioners have committed to a specific area, and Mr. Kirk would like to see this process completed, with at least one Commissioner assigned to each area. IAC Marketing and Communications Director Rex Van Zant presented a handout (attached) showing the current activity of the Cultural Trust Fund, which totaled \$2,254,150.51 as of June 30, 2012. Mr. Van Zant also reported on 2012 sales of the Cultural Trust license plate.

**8. Regional Arts Partners Update.** RAP Consortium president Donna Catalano reported that the RAPs last met on August 23. The Indiana Coalition for the Arts (INCA) will host its Community Arts Leadership Awards (CALA) on November 1 at the Arts Garden in Indianapolis. She reported that IAC Commissioner Pam Hicks will be the recipient of the Arts Volunteer of the Year award.

**9. Old Business.** IAC Commissioner Emeritus Dick Stifel offered thanks to Suzie Rentschler for hosting a wonderful reception for IAC at her home last evening. Everyone agreed and favored Ms. Rentschler with a round of applause. Mr. Stifel also reported that National Endowment for the Arts Chair Rocco Landesman recently visited the northern part of Indiana with stops in Gary and South Bend. Mr. Ricci reported that four communities have submitted letters of intent to host the 2013 Governor's Arts Awards. Ms. Hicks passed around a copy of an old IAC publication.

**10. New Business.** There was no new business.

**11. Closing Comments.** Mr. Ford thanked everyone for their participation and encouraged everyone to attend the Candidates Public Forum at Columbus City Hall at 2:00 p.m. today.

**12. Adjourn.** IAC Commissioner Al Rent moved to adjourn. Ms. Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.